

**INTERPRETATION IC 90.1-2010-5 OF
ANSI/ASHRAE/IES STANDARD 90.1-2010
Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings**

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Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements presented in ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1-2010, Section 6.5.1 Economizers, Exception k.4, relating to datacenters.

Background: Our firm is designing a datacenter for a regional bank. The data center will provide transaction clearing for a number of branch banks. The data center IT cooling load is 3,600,000 Btuh (300 tons).

Interpretation: Since the data center is used for transaction clearing an economizer is not required based on Section 6.5.1, Exemption k.4.

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: No.

Comments: A regional bank providing transaction clearing for branch banks does not fall into the categories as defined in “The Interagency Paper on Sound Practices to Strengthen the Resilience of the US Financial System,” dated April 7, 2003.

A regional bank does not meet the definition of a “critical financial market”, which includes the following:

- Federal funds, foreign exchange, and commercial paper
- U.S. Government and agency securities
- Corporate debt and equity securities

A regional bank also does not meet the definition of a “core clearing and settlement organization” which provides “core clearing and settlement services” that could result in “systemic risk” should it not be able to perform such as:

- Government-sponsored services or industry-owned organizations
- Private-sector firms that are integral to a critical market